

Appl. No.: 10/749,652
Amdt. dated 03/08/2007
Reply to Office Action of January 12, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A digital device, the digital device comprising:
 - a data processor[[.]]
 - a communication transceiver in communication with the data processor that is capable of monitoring an environment and receiving communications from one or more devices in the environment;
 - a computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium and computer-readable program instructions stored in the computer-readable medium and comprising:
 - a bonding application code that is executed by the data processor for bonding the digital device to one or more devices in the environment and recording sharing information received from the one or more bonded devices and information related to the users of the one or more bonded devices, the sharing information providing information about how to share collected media files with the bonded device;
 - a media transfer application code that is executed by the data processor for providing media file transfer parameters, the parameters including instructions to communicate captured media files with a specified set of metadata included in the communication; and
 - a memory unit that is in communication with the data processor and configured to stores the information recorded by the bonding application as bonded device metadata information.
2. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 1, ~~further comprising a~~ wherein the communication transceiver is configured to receive from the one or more bonded devices media files having associated media file metadata information.
3. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 2, further comprising a display and the computer-readable program instructions further comprising a grouping application code,

wherein the grouping application code is executed by the processor and provides for display of a group mode menu structure that allows a device user to define a group event.

4. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 3, wherein the grouping application code further provides for creation of a group file related to the group event, the group file for providing storage for media files associated with the event.

5. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 4, wherein the grouping application code further provides for display of a group mode menu structure that allows a device user to communicate stored media files and media file metadata information to one or more bonded devices.

6. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 4, wherein the grouping application code further provides for display of a group mode menu structure that allows a device user to select an automatic communication mode that automatically communicates, upon receipt, media files and media file metadata information to one or more bonded devices in accordance with the sharing information.

7. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 2, wherein the computer-readable program instructions further comprise a metadata correlation application code executed by the data processor for combining the received media file metadata information with the bonded device metadata information.

8. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 7, wherein the communication transceiver is configured to communicate the one or more received media files and the combined metadata to one or more remote devices.

9. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 8, wherein the communication transceiver communicates the one or more received media files and the combined metadata to

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one or more remote devices according to one or more remote device addresses stored as bonded device metadata information.

10. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 1, wherein the media transfer application code further provides for the media file transfer parameters to be communicated to the one or more bonded devices.

11. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 10, wherein the media transfer application code that provides for media file transfer parameters to be communicated to the one or more bonded devices further defines the media file transfer parameters as including instructions for transmitting media files captured at the one or more bonded devices.

12. (Previously Presented) The device of Claim 1, wherein the computer-readable program instructions further comprise a media file collection application code executed by the data processor for organizing media files received from the one or more bonded devices according to the media file metadata information.

13. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the communication transceiver is further defined as a short-range communication transceiver.

14. (Previously Presented) A method for wireless bonding of devices and communicating media file transfer parameters, the method comprising:

- monitoring, at a master device, an area of interest for the presence of potential bondable devices;
- receiving, at the master device, a presence signal from a potential bondable device;
- determining bond capability of the potential bondable device;
- approving the potential bondable device as a bonded device; and

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communicating, from the master device to the bonded device, media file transfer parameters, including definition of the media file metadata that is to be included with a captured media file.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein communicating, from the master device to the bonded device, media file transfer parameters occurs during the bond approval process.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein communicating, from the master device to the bonded device, media file transfer parameters occurs after the bond approval process.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein communicating, from the master device to the bonded device, media file transfer parameters, further includes one or more destination addresses for communicating captured media files.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein communicating, from the master device to the bonded device, media file transfer parameters, further includes one or more destination addresses for communicating captured media files, wherein at least one of the destination addresses is the master device address.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein communicating, from the master device to the bonded device, media file transfer parameters, further includes one or more destination addresses for communicating captured media files, wherein at least one of the destination addresses is an intermediary device address.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein determining a bond capability of the potential bondable device occurs at the master device.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein determining a bond capability of the potential bondable device occurs at the potential bondable device.
22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein approving the potential bondable device for bonding occurs at the master device.
23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein approving the potential bondable device for bonding occurs at the potential bondable device.
24. (Previously Presented) A method for communicating media files and associated media file metadata from a bonded device to a master device, the method comprising:
 - bonding one or more slave devices to a master device according to predetermined media file transfer parameters communicated to the slave device from the master device; and
 - communicating a plurality of media files from the one or more bonded devices to the master device, the plurality of media files having metadata information as defined by the predetermined media file transfer parameters.
25. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, further comprising combining, at the master device, the plurality of media files into a master media file.
26. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, further comprising combining, at the master device, the metadata information of the plurality of media files into a master metadata file.
27. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 25, further comprising communicating the master media file to one or more of the slave devices.
28. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 25, further comprising communicating the master media file to one or more non-bonded devices.

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29. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, further comprising recording, at the master device, metadata information related to the one or more bonded devices.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 29, further comprising correlating, at the master device, the bonded device metadata information with the media file metadata information.

31. (Previously Presented) A method for communicating media files and associated media file metadata from a master device to a bonded device, the method comprising:

bonding one or more remote devices to a master device according to predetermined media file transfer parameters;

recording, at the master device, bonded device metadata information;

receiving a media file at the master device from one or more of the bonded remote devices, the media file having associated media file metadata information; and

communicating the media file, the media file metadata and the bonded device metadata information from the master device to one or more of the bonded devices or to another remote device.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, further comprising combining, at the master device, the bonded device metadata information and the media file metadata information.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, wherein bonding one or more remote devices to a master device according to predetermined media file transfer parameters further defines the predetermined media file transfer parameters as including criteria for bonding a device.

34. (Previously Presented) A system for communicating media files and assembling a collection of associated media files, the system comprising:

a master device that monitors an environment for slave devices and includes:
 a processor that executes a bonding application code to bond the master device to one or more slave devices,
 a memory device in communication with the processor that stores metadata information related to one or more slave devices and the users of the one or more slave devices, and

a computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium and computer-readable program instructions stored therein, the computer-readable program instructions comprising a media transfer application code that provides for media file transfer parameters that include instructions for creation of media file metadata information; and

one or more slave devices that are bonded to the master device by successful execution of the bonding application code, wherein the one or more slave devices capture media files and communicate the captured media files to one or more devices that include a processor and a computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium and computer-readable program instructions stored therein with the computer-readable program instructions comprising a media file collection application code for communicating the collection of media files to one or more devices.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 34, wherein the one or more devices that include processors that execute a media file collection application code include the master device.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 34, wherein the media file collection application code is further configured for categorizing the media files in relation to the media file metadata information.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 34, wherein the media file collection application code is further configured for assembling the media files in a master media file.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 34, wherein the media file collection application code is further configured for communicating the collection of media files to one or more of the slave devices.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 34, wherein the media file collection application code is further configured for communicating the collection of media files to one or more non-bonded devices.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 34, wherein the media file collection application code is further configured for combining metadata related to the captured media files to form a master metadata file.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 34, wherein the master device communicates file transfer parameters to the one or more slave devices.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 42, wherein the master device communicates file transfer parameters to the one or more slave devices and the file transfer parameters include a device address of a device having a processor that executes a media file collection application code.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 42, wherein the master device communicates file transfer parameters to the one or more slave devices and the file transfer parameters include definition of at least one item of the media file metadata information.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 42, wherein the one or more slave devices capture media files and communicate, according to the file transfer parameters, the captured media files to one or more devices having processors that execute a media file collection application code.

46. (Original) The system of Claim 34, wherein the master device further comprises a media capture device that captures media files having associated media file metadata information.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 46, wherein the master device further comprises a display and wherein the computer-readable program instructions further comprise a grouping application code, the grouping application code is executed by the processor and provides for display of a group mode menu structure that allows a device user to define a group event.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 47, wherein the grouping application code further provides for creation of a group file related to the group event, the group file provides storage for media files associated with the event.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 48, wherein the grouping application code further provides for display of a group mode menu structure that allows a device user to communicate stored media files and media file metadata information to one or more bonded devices.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 49, wherein the grouping application code further provides for display of a group mode menu structure that allows a device user to select an automatic communication mode that automatically communicates, upon capture, media files and media file metadata information to one or more bonded devices.

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51. (Original) The system of Claim 34, wherein the one or more slave devices communicate the captured media files to one or more devices by wireless communication chosen from the group consisting of Bluetooth, wireless local area network (WLAN), radio frequency identification (RFID) and wireless telecom network.

52. (Previously Presented) A system for communicating media files and assembling a collection of media files, the system comprising:

a master device that provides bonding capability;
a media file collection device in communication with the master device; and
one or more slave devices that bond with the master device and communicate with the master device during a bond period, wherein the slave devices capture media files during the bond period and communicate the captured media files and associated media file metadata to the media file collection device,

wherein the media file collection device comprises a computer readable storage medium having computer-readable program instructions embodied in the medium, the computer-readable program instructions include instructions for combining a plurality of media files communicated from the one or more slave devices to form a collection of media files associated with the bond period, and instructions for communicating at least a portion of the combined plurality of media files to a device based on sharing information parameters.

53. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the master device comprises the media file collection device.

54. (Canceled)

55. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 52, further comprising an intermediary device that comprises the media file collection device.

56. (Canceled)

57. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 556, wherein the one or more slave devices communicate the captured media files and associated media file metadata to the master device, which in turn communicates the captured media files and associated media file metadata to the media file collection device embodied in the intermediary device.

58. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the computer-readable program instructions further include instructions for correlating the media file metadata.

59. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the computer-readable program instructions further include instructions for correlating the media file metadata and calendar event metadata.

60. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein computer-readable program instructions further include instructions for combining the media file metadata to form a master metadata file related to the media files captured during the bond period.

61. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 60, wherein the computer-readable program instructions further includes instructions for adding additional metadata to the master metadata file.

62. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 60, wherein the computer-readable program instructions further include instructions for adding additional metadata to the master metadata file, the additional metadata chosen from the group consisting of bookmark metadata, annotation metadata and comment metadata.

63. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the instructions for communicating at least a portion of the combined plurality of media files to a device based on

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sharing information parameters include instructions for communicating the collection of media files to one or more of the slave devices.

64. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the instructions for communicating at least a portion of the combined plurality of media files to a device based on sharing information parameters include instructions for communicating the collection of media files to one or more non-bonded devices.

65. (Original) The system of Claim 52, wherein the one or more slave devices bond with the master device by a wireless communication medium chosen from the group consisting of Bluetooth, wireless local area network (WLAN), radio frequency identification (RFID) and wireless telecom network.

66. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 52, wherein the one or more slave devices communicate the sharing information parameters to the master device.

67. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 55, wherein the one or more slave devices communicate the sharing information parameters to the master device, which in turn communicates the sharing information parameters to the intermediary device.

68. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 34, wherein instructions for communicating the collection of media files to one or more devices include instructions for communicating the collection of media files based on sharing information parameters received from the one or more slave devices or from the master device.